

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RIO DE 01338 222154Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 FRB-01
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 OMB-01 STR-07 TRSE-00
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R 221534Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6005
INFO USDA WASHINGTON DC
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS RIO DE JANEIRO 1338

DEPT. PASS MCCONNELL FAS/USDA/W

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, BR
SUBJ: BRAZIL'S COFFEE SALES INCREASE SHARPLY

REF.: A. SAN SALVADOR 1261; B. SAN SALVADOR 1184

1. BRAZILIAN COFFEE INSTITUTE (IBC) PRESIDENT CALAZANS
ANNOUNCED TO THE PRESS MARCH 17 THE SALES OF 540 THOUSAND
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PAGE 02 RIO DE 01338 222154Z

BAGS OF GREEN COFFEE DURING THE PREVIOUS THREE-DAY PERIOD.
HE SAID SALES OF THIS MAGNITUDE REFLECT OPENING OF PROMISING
NEW PROSPECTS FOR COFFEE SALES AFTER TWO MONTHS OF RELATIVE
STAGNATION. CALAZANS BELIEVES THAT 1978 CY COFFEE EXPORTS WILL
NOT EXCEED THE OFFICIAL OBJECTIVE OF 12 MILLION BAGS. IN
ADDITION, HE SAID THAT THE 1978 COFFEE CROP, ESTIMATED AT 20.7
MILLION BAGS, WILL BARELY MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR DOMESTIC

CONSUMPTION AND EXPORTS. HE THEN SAID THAT GOVERNMENT-OWNED STOCKS OF COFFEE ARE CURRENTLY AT THE EXTREMELY LOW LEVEL OF 300 THOUSAND BAGS AND ARE EXPECTED TO BE ENTIRELY EXHAUSTED BY JUNE THIS YEAR.

2. COMMENTS: CALAZANS IS STILL USING IBC'S ORIGINAL PRODUCTION ESTIMATE FOR BRAZIL'S 1978 COFFEE HARVEST OF 20.7 MILLION BAGS DESPITE REPORTED HARMFUL EFFECTS OF DROUGHT IN COFFEE PRODUCING AREAS. (SEE SAO PAULO'S A-15 OF MARCH 15, 1978 FOR SURVEY OF SANTOS COFFEE TRADERS ON DROUGHT DAMAGE). CALAZANS DID NOT MENTION THE SIZE OF COFFEE STOCKS CURRENTLY IN PRIVATE HANDS. FAS ESTIMATES THAT ON DECEMBER 31, 1977 TOTAL COFFEE STOCKS IN BRAZIL WERE ABOUT 20 MILLION BAGS. CALAZANS OFFERED NO EXPLANATION FOR THE SUDDEN BOOM IN BRAZIL'S COFFEE SALES IN SPITE OF APPARENT CONNECTION BETWEEN THE BOOM AND "SALES BOYCOTT" OF CENTRAL AMERICAN PRODUCERS.
DEXTER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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